

Remarks/Arguments

This Amendment is in response to the Office Action mailed October 20, 2004. Claims 1-8 and 10-21 are pending in this case. Claims 1-8 and 10 have been allowed. Claims 11 and 12 have been rejected. Claims 13-21 have been objected to but include allowable subject matter. Claims 11 and 14 have herein been amended. Claims 12 and 13 have herein been canceled. Claims 1-8, 10 and 15-21 remain unchanged.

In the interest of passing this application to immediate allowance, Claim 13 has been incorporated into its independent Claim 11, along with intervening Claim 12. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that Claim 11 is now in condition for immediate allowance. Also, Claim 14 has been amended to depend from Claim 11. As such, Claims 14-21 are likewise now in condition for immediate allowance. An early Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested.

Claim 11 had been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Hubler et al. (US 6,265,675). Claim 12 had been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Hubler et al. in view of Brauneis (US 5,174,399). In view of the above amendments, Applicants respectfully submit that these rejections are now moot. Nonetheless, Applicants repeat and

reallege the arguments set forth in their prior Amendment as though fully stated herein. With respect to Brauneis, Applicants respectfully submit that the scanner/scale disclosed therein is related point of sale systems at checkout counters, such as may be found in a grocery store, and would not be looked to for, or suitable for, the intricacies of mail weighing systems or scales.

It is respectfully submitted that none of the prior art of record, either alone or in combination, fairly teaches, suggests or discloses the novel and unobvious features of Applicants' claims. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully assert that the claims as presented herein are now in condition for allowance. An early notice allowance is respectfully requested.

Any arguments of the Examiner not specifically addressed should not be deemed admitted, conceded, waived, or acquiesced by Applicants. Any additional or outstanding matters the Examiner may have are respectfully requested to be disposed of by telephoning the undersigned.

Applicants reserve the right to pursue any and all previously submitted, canceled and/or new claims by way of a continuation application.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees which may be required, including any fees for any necessary extensions, to Deposit Account No. 16-0657.

A postcard is enclosed evidencing receipt of the same.

Respectfully submitted,

**PATULA & ASSOCIATES, P.C.**



Charles T. Riggs Jr.  
Reg. No. 37,430  
Attorney for Applicants

PATULA & ASSOCIATES, P.C.  
116 S. Michigan Ave., 14th Floor  
Chicago, Illinois 60603  
(312) 201-8220

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